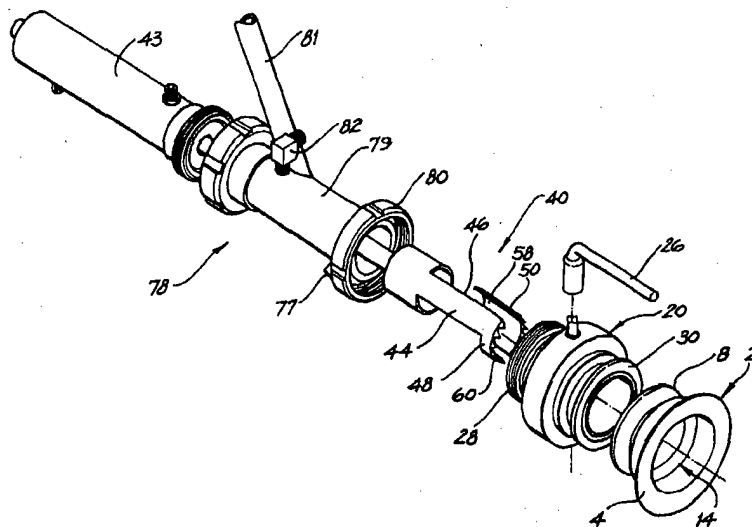




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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU99/00178</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 18 March 1999 (18.03.99)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: PP 2435 18 March 1998 (18.03.98) AU</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SOUTHCORP AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD. [AU/AU]; Level 23, 91 King William Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000 (AU).</p> <p>(72) Inventor; and</p> <p>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): ANDERSON, Ian [AU/AU]; 5 Aruma Street, Warneet, VIC 3980 (AU).</p> <p>(74) Agent: FREEHILLS PATENT ATTORNEYS; MLC Centre, Level 32, Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000 (AU).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p>	

(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO TOTE BINS



(57) Abstract

A tote bin liner has a transfer spigot (2) through which product may be introduced into or emptied from the liner. The transfer spigot has a membrane (6) which seals the interior of the liner. The membrane is sealed to the spigot on an outer face (11) of the spigot which is configured so that the membrane will be clamped in position during piercing of the membrane by a cutter. The invention extends to a cutter assembly for use with a tote bin liner. The cutter assembly (40) may be adapted to be moved past a valve closure member (22) for the valve (20), the assembly furthermore including an arrangement (78) for sterilising the interior of the valve and the outer face of the membrane, and an actuator (43) for moving the cutter in order to pierce the membrane.

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